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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/539,432	02/08/2006	Jean-Francois Fleury	PF030021	6804
24498	7590	02/02/2009	EXAMINER	
Robert D. Shedd			LEE, ANDREW CHUNG CHEUNG	
Thomson Licensing LLC				
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PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312			PAPER NUMBER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/539,432

Applicant(s)

FLEURY ET AL.

Examiner

Andrew C. Lee

Art Unit

2419

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 October 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 7, 11 and 12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-5, 8-10 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 6, 7, 11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SI-108)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 6, 7, 11, 12 are pending.
Claims 1 – 5, 8 – 10 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 6, 7, 11, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sakai et al. (6005869)

Regarding claim 6, Sakai et al. disclose a method for reserving, on a node of an Ethernet bus type communication network, a fraction of bandwidth of a digital bus during a cycle (*Abstract, Fig. 31*), the method comprising: circulating a token between all nodes of the network so as to enable all nodes of the network to send in turn a data packet over the bus according to a sequence defining a chronological order of passage of the token between all nodes during a cycle (*Fig. 31(a) – (f), col. 1, lines 25 – 67*), wherein the chronological order of passage of the token between all nodes of the network is defined by a master node of the network (*"master station sends out a token for each certain time"; col. 5, lines 37 – 49*); and wherein the fraction of bandwidth reserved for the node of the network corresponds in the sequence to a certain number of occurrences of passage of the token via the node (*col. 5, lines 46 – 49*), and wherein

the master node, on initialization of the network, constructs a first table, stores for each node of the network information indicative of the fraction of bandwidth reserved for each node (*"initialization state"*; *Fig. 3, col. 32, lines 18 – 43*), and on the basis of the first table, constructs a second table storing the sequence defining the order of passage of the token between the nodes of the network (*col. 27, lines 30 – 45*).

Regarding claim 7, Sakai et al. disclose the method claimed in which the occurrences of passage of the token via a node of the network are distributed in the sequence among the occurrences of passage of the token via other nodes of the network (*col. 14, lines 58 – 67, col. 15, lines 1 – 13*).

Regarding claim 11, Sakai et al. disclose a communication device (*Fig. 1*) designed to be connected to a digital bus communication network (*Abstract, Fig. 31*), the device comprising: a connection as a master node to the network (*"master station sends out a token for each certain time"*; *col. 5, lines 37 – 49, Fig. 8, Fig.9*); and a token, wherein the master node is configured to have a token circulate the token between all nodes of the network during a cycle (*Fig. 31(a) – (f), col. 1, lines 25 – 67*) and wherein the master node is organized to construct a first table storing, for each node of the network, information indicative of a fraction of the bus bandwidth reserved for each node of the network (*"initialization state"*; *Fig. 3, col. 32, lines 18 – 43, col. 5, lines 37 – 49*), and a second table storing a sequence defining a chronological order of passage of the token between all nodes during a cycle (*col. 27, lines 30 – 45*), the fraction of the bandwidth reserved for a any one node of the network corresponding in the sequence to

a certain number of occurrences of passage of the token via the one node (*col. 27, lines 30 – 45, col. 32, lines 18 – 43*).

Regarding claim 12, Sakai et al. disclose a communication device (*Fig. 1*) designed to be connected to a digital bus communication network (*Abstract, Fig. 31*), the device comprising: a connection as a node to the digital bus communication network (*Fig. 1, col. 12, lines 1 – 8*); and a table received from a master node of the network storing a sequence defining a chronological order of passage of a token between all the nodes during a cycle (*"initialization state"; Fig. 3, col. 32, lines 18 – 43*), the fraction of the bandwidth reserved for a node of the network corresponding in the sequence to a certain number of occurrences of passage of the token via the node (*col. 27, lines 30 – 45*), wherein the node transmits the token to the next node in the sequence so that each node of the network can follow the chronological order in the sequence (*col. 14, lines 58 – 67, col. 15, lines 1 – 13*).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 10/31/2008 with respect to claims 6, 7, 11, 12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrew C. Lee whose telephone number is (571)272-3131. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edan Orgad can be reached on (571) 272-7884. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Andrew C Lee/
Examiner, Art Unit 2419
<1/30/2009:2Qy09>
/Salman Ahmed/
Examiner, Art Unit 2419